

Solutions

Winter 2008

Next Phases Awarded

Two contracts were awarded in November for improvements to Route 72 in Madison, Bollinger and Cape Girardeau Counties. The \$1,175,538 and \$7,333,994 contracts were awarded to Chester Bross Construction, Hannibal, and Apex Paving Co., Cape Girardeau, respectively.

The first contract is the first phase of building a bypass around Fredericktown. The work includes relocating Route 72 north of its current intersection with Route OO and constructing a roundabout. Traffic may see minor impacts during the roundabout construction. Work is expected to start this December with the project anticipated for completion in fall 2008. The second and third phases of the bypass project will occur in fall 2008 and fall 2009.

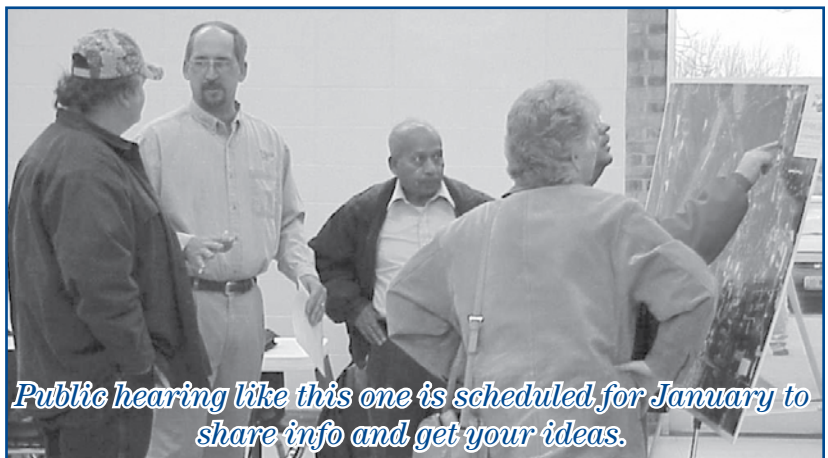
MoDOT recently met with the contractor to discuss the second project, which includes resurfacing and paving shoulders of Route 72 from just east of Route 51 in Bollinger County to just west of Route 34 in Cape Girardeau County. During construction, drivers can expect delays and flagger-controlled traffic similar to previous Route 72 corridor improvements. Work is expected to get underway early next year and wrap up in summer 2009.

Public Meeting Next Month

Improvements are sweeping across Route 72 in Madison, Bollinger and Cape Girardeau Counties, and MoDOT is looking for input on the latest project to see progress. MoDOT will host an open house public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 10 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Millersville Baptist Church, 531 Market Street.

The meeting will focus on three bridge replacements along the route:

White-water River Bridge and Byrd Creek Bridge in Cape County, and Little White-water River



Public hearing like this one is scheduled for January to share info and get your ideas.

Bridge in Bollinger County. Several projects along Route 72 are already under construction, but Project Manager Tim Richmond says this meeting will deal with the bridge replacements scheduled for bids late next year.

"We're certainly always here to answer any questions about Route 72 projects," says Richmond, "however, the purpose of the meeting will be to share project information on this trio of bridge replacements, bypasses necessary for construction and the timeframe."

The timeframe currently estimates accepting bids for the projects in winter 2008-09. Richmond says while the project is still many months from construction, now is the time for public comment.

"We're working on the design plans now. We're far enough along in the process that we have something to show the public, but not so far along that if they offer suggestions we can still incorporate."

Residents can stop by anytime between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and speak one-on-one with a member of the project team. No formal presentation will be held.

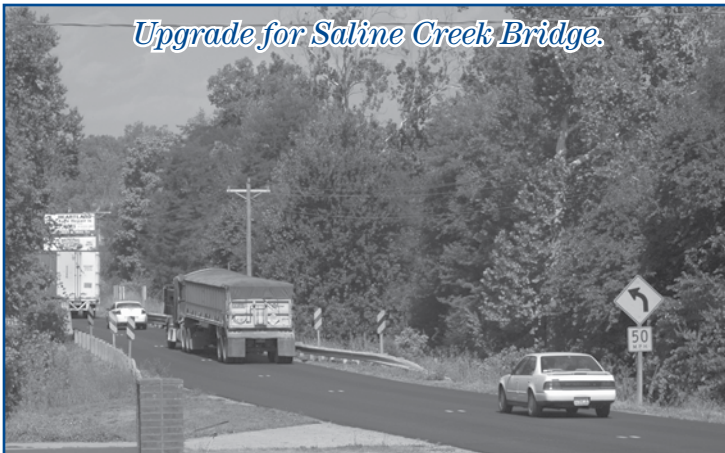
Changes To Route J Realignment

MoDOT is currently working on a project to replace the Saline Creek Bridge just east of Route J in Madison County. During construction, traffic will be diverted to a bypass.

Part of the project also includes relocating the Route 72 and J intersection to improve safety.

relocated that we provide the best improvement for sight distance for Route J and Route 72 traffic. And, as always, we have to be mindful of balancing that with taxpayer dollars that make up our budget, so we find both the best and most cost effective solution."

Richmond says right now, the team is gathering



Upgrade for Saline Creek Bridge.



Route J intersection to be relocated.

MoDOT originally considered moving the relocation 200 feet to the west; however, it is now considering relocation to the east across the open field between the bridge and existing Route J.

"Were looking at a number of factors before a decision is made," says Project Manager Tim Richmond. "We want to make sure that when the intersection is

survey information to study the two locations, benefits and costs.

Construction for the project is tentatively scheduled for 2009.

Route 34/72: Final Phase

A Note Of Thanks

The project team recently met to go over final plans for the last phase in the Route 34/72 improvements in Jackson.

Bids are scheduled to be accepted for the project next year. The final phase includes widening and resurfacing the route to four lanes from County Road 335 to the Starlight intersection.

If awarded, work could get underway in spring 2008.

The previous two projects in the improvement plan are complete and open to traffic.

October 18, 2007

Good Afternoon Tim:

Just a short note to say THANKS for the reflective cones, white rail reflectors and orange center line reflectors.

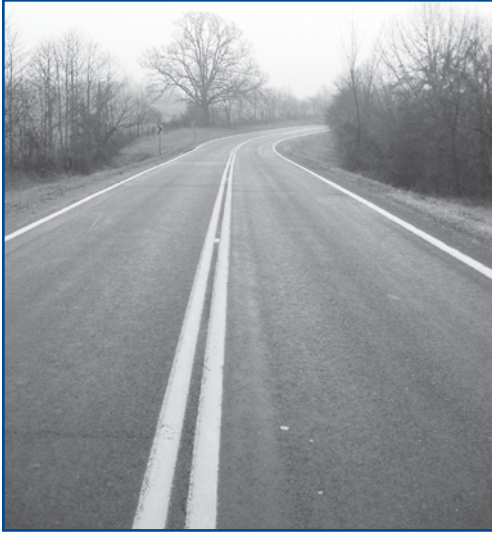
I had the unfortunate experience to drive back from New Madrid to Fredericktown during that storm last night. It was a harrowing experience on 55 to have 18 wheelers going 70 mph while we little guys were 45 mph, with them blinding our vision with the water spray.

Anyway, I wasn't looking forward to 72, knowing there were signs that said "no centerlines painted" or words to that effect. However, when we got to the stretch of newly constructed road, there were the "beacons of safety." On the isolated stretches of road, we could use even more of the reflective markers to let us see where the road is, even after you paint the centerline. The rain was so heavy and blowing horizontally, it was nearly covering the reflectors in the road, but they still provided that needed margin of safety.

Thanks.

Carole Magnus

Safety Improvements In Bollinger County



The latest Route 72 work between Route 51 and Cape County includes flattening a curve 1.1 miles west of the Bollinger/Cape Girardeau County line. The change, like all the Route 72 improvements is focused on safety.

MoDOT is feeling rising prices just as you are. And Route 72 is a project with set funds and lots of needs.

“We have a budget,” says Project Manager Tim Richmond, “and we have to stay within that budget.”

That’s why the work on Route 72 has been focused on resurfacing the route for a smoother ride, paving shoulders for driver safety and updating outdated bridges.

Richmond says the project team has stayed focused on safety by seeking “improvements which yield the most safety benefit (i.e. taming the sharp curves)” like the one to the left and enhanced safety features such as rumblestrips below.

The Construction Update

Resident Engineer Matt Malone gives us an update of the work underway on Route 72.

- All the asphalt paving has been completed.
- The contractor continues to grade and shape slopes and ditches from Route F in Madison County to Route 51 in Bollinger County.
- Work will continue this winter as weather permits.
- Completion is expected in the Spring of 2008.
- Work is expected to start on the portion from Route 51 to Cape County this spring.
- Work is expected to start on the bypass at Fredericktown this spring.
- For more information, call 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636).

Rumblestrips For 72

You’ve probably noticed those grooved lines in the pavement along the edge of the interstates. Those are rumblestrips, a safety feature to reduce crashes and injuries. Rumblestrips alert motorists when they’re leaving the driving lane.

MoDOT is working to install rumblestrips to all new pavement on major roads by the end of 2007. The improvements to Route 72 include rumblestrips both on the edge of the driving lanes and along the centerline to reduce crashes and improve visibility.

Crashes where motorists run off the road are the second highest cause of deaths on Missouri highways and the leading cause of roadway injuries, following not wearing a seat belt. Rumblestrips make noise and cause vehicles to vibrate when they leave the driving lane. Including rumblestrips on the centerline will also help keep drivers away from oncoming traffic.

The rumblestrips are painted with durable, highly reflective paint. The edgeline marking visibly shows where the lane ends and the shoulder begins. The system will help visibility during all conditions but especially at night and in the rain. Major roads will have some combination of rumblestrips, painted edgelines and painted or taped centerlines.

“MoDOT will continue to test new processes to provide the safest possible roadways for Missouri motorists,” says Project Manager Tim Richmond. “Using a combination of rumblestrips, more durable paint and improved signs give drivers the best visibility possible and alert motorists sooner, keeping them on the road to avoid potential crashes.”



Questions On Route 72 Improvements?



Tim Richmond

For information on Route 72 improvements in Madison, Bollinger and Cape Girardeau Counties.

(573) 472-5290 or
1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)
tim.richmond@modot.mo.gov



Eric Krapf

For information on Route 34/72 improvements in Jackson.

(573) 472-5261 or
1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)
eric.krapf@modot.mo.gov

- Upcoming Public Hearing
- Route 34/72 Final Phase
- Route J/72 Improvements

Solutions to:

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Cape Girardeau, MO
Permit #355

ModOT-Southeast District
P.O. Box 160
Sikeston, MO 63801
1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636)
www.modot.org/southeast

